

In the claims

1. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for allowing a calling party to initiate a telephone call from an Internet-enabled device, the apparatus comprising a server for receiving an originating telephone number and a destination telephone number in response to a command from the Internet-enabled device wherein at least the destination telephone number is imported from a database external to the server, for generating a call request, and for transmitting the request to a telecommunications network to request the network to establish a connection between the originating telephone number and the destination telephone number.
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a database in communication with the server, the database having stored therein the call request.
3. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, ~~further comprising a database in communication with the server, the database having stored therein at least one telephone number~~ wherein the server transmits the call request to a service control point of the telecommunications network and wherein the call request includes instructions that cause the service control point to establish the connection through operation of at least one switch of the telecommunications network that is in communication with the service control point.
4. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the telecommunications network includes an advanced intelligent network (ALN AIN).
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising a communications network for connecting the Internet-enabled device to the server.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the Internet-enabled device is selected from the group consisting of a personal computer, an Internet appliance, a personal digital assistant, a WAP-enabled device, and an interactive pager.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of enabling a calling party to initiate a telephone call, the method comprising:

receiving a request to initiate the telephone call from a first device of a non-secure data network at a first server of a secure data network, wherein the first device is associated with the calling party;

receiving an originating telephone number;

receiving a destination telephone number by the first device accessing an online telephone directory of a database maintained on the non-secure data network; and

transmitting a call request containing the originating telephone number and the destination telephone number from the first server over the secure network to a telecommunications network to request the telecommunications network to originate the telephone call from a second device associated with the originating telephone number to a third device associated with the destination telephone number.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, wherein receiving an originating telephone number includes receiving an originating telephone number from the Internet-enabled first device.

9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein ~~receiving a destination telephone number includes receiving a destination telephone number from the first device~~ transmitting the call request comprises transmitting instructions to a service control point of the telecommunications network, the method further comprising the service control point generating commands to at least one switch to connect a call between the originating telephone number and the destination telephone number.

10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7 ~~2~~, wherein ~~receiving a destination telephone number includes receiving a destination telephone number from a database~~ further comprising the service control point performing a look-up in an associated database to determine whether the requested call should be completed.

11. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein receiving an originating telephone

number includes receiving an originating telephone number from a database.

12. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 7, wherein transmitting a call request containing the originating telephone number and the destination telephone number to a telecommunications network includes transmitting the call request to an advanced intelligent network (~~AIN~~ AIN).

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising receiving one of an IP address and an email address of the first device.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising accepting a personal identification number (PIN) from the first device.

15. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium containing instructions that when executed by a computer perform acts for allowing a calling party to initiate a telephone call from an Internet-enabled device, the acts comprising:

receiving a request from the Internet-enabled device of a non-secure network at a first server of a secure network to initiate the telephone call;

receiving an originating telephone number;

receiving a destination telephone number by a user of the Internet-enabled device providing a personal identification number after having accessed the first server that allows access to a telephone directory database of the secure network and receiving a selection of the destination number from the telephone directory via the Internet-enabled device; and

transmitting a call request containing the originating telephone number and the destination telephone number to a telecommunications network to request the network to establish a connection between the originating telephone number and the destination telephone number.

16. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 15, the acts further comprising storing in a database at least one of the originating and the destination

telephone numbers.

17. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 15, the acts further comprising preventing unauthorized ~~access to the apparatus~~ requests for calls from Internet-enabled devices.

18. (Currently Amended) A system for allowing a calling party to initiate a telephone call from an Internet-enabled device, the system comprising:

a telecommunications network;

an IP network in communication with the Internet-enabled device; and

a server of a secure network separate from the IP network for receiving an originating telephone number and a destination telephone number in response to a command from the Internet-enabled device wherein the destination telephone number comes from a selection made by the Internet-enabled device from a telephone directory of the IP network, for generating a call request, and for transmitting the request to the telecommunications network to request the network to establish a connection between the originating telephone number and the destination telephone number.

19. (Original) The system of claim 18, further comprising a database for storing the call request.

20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 18, further comprising a database of the secure network having stored therein at least one of the originating and the destination telephone numbers.